

# Grades K-12



**INSTRUCTIONS** Use this guide as a quick reference to help you determine whether children seeking admission to your school meet California’s school immunization requirements. For the actual laws, see Health and Safety Code, Division 105, Part 2, Chapter 1, Sections 120325-120380; California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 8, Sections 6000-6075. If you have any questions, call the Immunization Coordinator at your local health department.

**IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS** To enter into public and private elementary and secondary schools (grades kindergarten through 12), children under age 18 years must have immunizations.

| VACCINE  | REQUIRED DOSES   |
|--|--|
| <b>Polio</b>   | <b>4 doses at any age, but...</b> 3 doses meet requirement for ages 4–6 years if at least one was given on or after the 4th birthday <sup>1</sup> ; 3 doses meet requirement for ages 7–17 years if at least one was given on or after the 2nd birthday. <sup>1</sup>  |
| <b>Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis</b>                        | <b>Age 6 years and under:</b> DTP, DTaP or any combination of DTP or DTaP with DT (diphtheria and tetanus) <b>5 doses at any age, but...</b> 4 doses meet requirements for ages 4–6 years if at least one was on or after the 4th birthday. <sup>1</sup>   |
|  | <b>Age 7 years and older:</b> Tdap, Td, or DTP, DTaP or any combination of these <b>4 doses at any age, but...</b> 3 doses meet requirement for ages 7–17 years if at least one was on or after the 2nd birthday. <sup>1</sup> If last dose was given before the 2nd birthday, one more (Tdap) dose is required. |
| <b>Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)</b>                             | <b>Kindergarten: 2 doses<sup>2</sup></b> both on or after 1st birthday. <sup>1</sup>   |
|  | <b>7th grade: 2 doses<sup>2</sup></b> both on or after 1st birthday. <sup>1</sup>  |
|  | <b>Grades 1–6 and 8–12: 1 dose</b> on or after 1st birthday. <sup>1</sup>  |
| <b>Hepatitis B<sup>3</sup></b>                                   | <b>Kindergarten: 3 doses at any age</b>  |
| <b>Varicella</b>   | <b>1 dose</b> for children under 13 years. <sup>4, 6</sup>   |
| <b>Tdap Booster</b> (Tetanus, reduced diphtheria, and pertussis) | <b>7th grade: 1 dose</b> on or after 7th birthday. <sup>5</sup>  |

<sup>1</sup> Receipt of the dose up to (and including) 4 days before the birthday will satisfy the school entry immunization requirement.  
<sup>2</sup> Two doses of measles-containing vaccine required. One dose of mumps (Kindergarten only) and rubella-containing vaccine required.  
<sup>3</sup> No longer required for 7th grade beginning July 1, 2011.  
<sup>4</sup> Physician-documented varicella (chickenpox) disease history or immunity meets the varicella requirement.  
<sup>5</sup> Tdap, DTaP, or DTP given on or after 7th birthday will meet the requirement. Td does not meet the requirement.  
<sup>6</sup> A 2 dose varicella requirement for ages 13-17 years applies to transfer students who were not admitted to California school before July 1, 2001.

**EXEMPTIONS** The law allows parents/guardians to choose an exemption from immunization requirements based on their personal beliefs or medical exemptions. For children with medical exemptions, the physician’s written statement should be submitted. Schools should maintain an up-to-date list of pupils with exemptions, so they can be excluded quickly if an outbreak occurs.

**NOT MEETING REQUIREMENTS** Refer pupils who do not meet these State requirements to their physician or local health department. Give families a written notice indicating which doses are lacking.

**CONDITIONAL ADMISSIONS** Children who lack one or more required vaccine doses that are not currently due may be admitted on condition that they receive the remaining doses when due. Refer to Title 17, CCR Section 6035 for more information.